GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4663
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2000
CYCLONE WARNING CENTRES
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cylone warning centres in the country are still suing outdated cyclone detection radars;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to replace them with the advanced and modern weather radars for the better and more accurate forewarning;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government have set up cyclone warning centres at Nagapattinam and Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a) : No, Sir.

(b) & (c) A network of 10 High Power S-BandCyclone Detection Radars (CDRs) coversthe entire coastline of the country. These radars which have a range of 400 Km, have been installed at Calcutta, Paradip, Visakhapatnam, Machilipatnam,Chennai, Karaikal along the east coast and Cochin, Goa, Mumbai and Bhujover the west coast. All the 10 CDRsare in gtoood working condition and haved been prioviding useful information for tracking tropical cyclones as they approach the indian Coastling.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) has plans to replace existing cyclonedetection radars by doppler Weather Radars (DWRs)in a phased manner . In the first phase, CDRsat Chennai and Calcutta will be replaced by DWRs, forwhich order has been placed. Further , under a World Bank aide3d `Andhra Pradesh Hazard Mitigation and Emergency Cyclone Recovery Project`, stepshave been initiated to procure three more Doppler Weather Radars.

A Doppler Weather Radar has been developed by ISRO, for installation at Sriharikota.

The Doppler Weather Radars will provide additional information on thestructure of the wind field of tropical cyclones which will improve the intensity estimation and prediction of storm surges.

(d) India Meteorological Department has six cyclone Warning Centres (CWCs) in operation along the east and west coasts of the country covering the coastal areas of all maritime States. These centres are located at Calcutta, Bhubaneswar, Visakhapatnam , Chennai, Mumbai and Ahmedabad. Thesecentres provide a proven anmd reliable system for cyclone warning and its dissemination to different Government functionaries, public and other users. The present set up of Cyclone Warning Centres is found adequate and no necessity is felt for establishing new centres at Nagapattinam and Rameswaram in Tamilnadu, which are already covered by IMD`s Area Cyclone Warning Centre at Chennai.